

Queries

A simple query uses words and phrases separated by commas.

When a query is entered in mixed case, the search engine finds case-sensitive matches. Queries entered completely in upper or lower case force the search engine to find all versions of the query terms—mixed, upper, and lower case.

To search for characters such as backslash (\), comma (,), and quotes (" and '), insert a backslash before the character, for example:

```
C:\\bin\\print
```

To create robust queries, you can incorporate Verity operators and modifiers in the query syntax. The use of operators and modifiers is optional. A modifier is usually used with an operator rather than alone.

Field searches, both text and numeric, can be performed using the relational operators. Numeric and text searches are supported for fields defined in your Verity collections.

Optional Modifiers

CASE

Performs a case-sensitive search. The search engine attempts to match the case-sensitivity provided in the query expression, when mixed case is used. CASE is not valid with the SOUNDEX and STEM operators.

MANY

Incorporates the density of search words in the calculation of the relevance-ranked score. Used with evidence and proximity operators, except NEAR.

```
<MANY> <STEM> apple
```

NOT

Excludes documents containing the words or phrases. To search for the word NOT, enclose NOT in double quotes.

```
cat <AND> mouse <AND> <NOT> dog
```

ORDER

Specifies the order in which search elements much occur in the document. Used with PARAGRAPH, SENTENCE, and NEAR/N.

```
president <ORDER> <PARAGRAPH> adams
```

Evidence Operators

SOUNDEX

Expands the search to include the word you enter and one or more words that “sound like,” or whose letter pattern is similar to, the word specified. Collections do not have sound-alike indexes by default; to use this feature sound-alike indexes must be built.

```
<SOUNDEX> sale
```

STEM

Expands the search to include the word you enter and its linguistic variations.

```
<STEM> film
```

THESAURUS

Expands the search to include the word you enter and its synonyms.

```
<THESAURUS> altitude
```

```
<MANY> <THESAURUS> altitude
```

TYPO/N

Expands the search to include the word you enter plus words that are similar to the query term. This operator performs approximate pattern matching to identify similar words. The number specifies the maximum number of transpositions in one word.

```
<TYPO/3> sweeping
```

WILDCARD

Matches wildcard characters included in search strings. Certain characters automatically indicate a wildcard specification.

? specifies one alphanumeric character.

When the question mark is used, <WILDCARD> is unnecessary.

* specifies zero or more alphanumeric characters. When the asterisk is used, <WILDCARD> is unnecessary.

[] specifies one of any characters in a set. You must enclose the word that includes a set in backquotes (`), and there can be no spaces in a set.

```
<WILDCARD> 'c[au]t' finds cat and cut
```

() specifies one of each pattern separated by a comma. You must enclose the word that includes a pattern in backquotes (`), and there can be no spaces in a set.

```
<WILDCARD> 'cat(s,er)' finds cats and cater.
```

[^] specifies characters excluded from the set. The caret (^) must be the first character after the left bracket ([) that introduces a set.

```
<WILDCARD> 'l[^ai]p' excludes lap and lip.
```

[-] specifies a range of characters in a set. <WILDCARD> 'c[a-u]t' finds every three-letter word from “cat” to “cut.”

WORD

Performs a basic word search, selecting documents that include one or more instances of the specific word you enter.

```
<WORD> rhetoric
```

Relational Operators (text fields)

CONTAINS

Selects documents by matching the word or phrase you specify with the values stored in a specific document field. Documents are selected only if the search elements specified appear in the same sequential and contiguous order in the field value.

```
title <CONTAINS> computer
```

ENDS

Selects documents by matching the character string you specify with the ending characters stored in a specific document field.

```
title <ENDS> ter
```

MATCHES

Selects documents by matching the character string you specify with values stored in a specific document field. Documents are selected only if the search elements specified match the field value exactly. If a partial match is found, a document is not selected.

```
author <MATCHES> Lang
```

STARTS

Selects documents by matching the character string you specify with the starting characters stored in a specific document field.

```
author <STARTS> jack
```

SUBSTRING

Selects documents by matching the character string you specify with a portion of the strings stored in a specific document field.

```
organization <SUBSTRING> eng
```

Relational Operators (numeric fields)

= (EQUALS)

Selects documents whose document field values are exactly the same as the search string you specify.

```
orgnumber = 500
```

> (GREATER THAN)

Selects documents whose document field values are greater than the search string you specify.
revision > 4

>= (GREATER THAN OR EQUAL TO)

Selects documents whose document field values are greater than or equal to the search string you specify.
pages >= 500

< (LESS THAN)

Selects documents whose document field values are less than the search string you specify.
groupnumber < 20

<= (LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO)

Selects documents whose document field values are less than or exactly the same as the search string you specify.
pages <= 500



Concept Operators

AND

Selects documents that contain all of the search elements you specify. (To search for the word AND, enclose AND in double quotes.)
computer <AND> laptop
Lewis "and" Clark

ACCRUE

Selects documents that include at least one of the search elements you specify. The more search elements that are present, the higher the score will be.
<ACCRUE> (computer, laptop)

OR

Selects documents that show evidence of at least one of the search elements you specify. (To search for the word OR, enclose OR in double quotes.)
nation <OR> region
left "or" right



Proximity Operators

IN

Selects documents that contain specified values in one or more document zones. A document zone represents a region of a document, such as the document's summary, date, or body text. The IN operator can be qualified with the WHEN operator, to search for a term only within the one or more zones upon which certain conditions have been placed.
laptop <IN> title

The IN operator can be qualified with the WHEN operator, to search for a term only within the one or more zones upon which certain conditions have been placed. The following example locates links to the document "report.html" on the verity web site.

"report.html" <IN> A <WHEN> (HREF <CONTAINS> "verity")

NEAR

Selects documents containing specified search terms, where the closer the search terms are within a document, the higher the document's score.

<CASE> World <NEAR> peace

NEAR/N

Selects documents containing two or more search terms within N number of words of each other, where N is an integer up to 1000. The closer the search terms are within a document, the higher the document's score.

commute <NEAR/10> train

PARAGRAPH

Selects documents that include all of the search elements you specify within the same paragraph.

<CASE> Apple <PARAGRAPH> compute
<MANY> <PARAGRAPH> laptop

PHRASE

Selects documents that include a phrase you specify. A phrase is a grouping of two or more words that occur in a specific order.

national <PHRASE> park
"national park"

SENTENCE

Selects documents that include all of the words you specify within the same sentence.

<SENTENCE> (car, park)
president <ORDER> <SENTENCE> adams

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